



Cpl. Ian York, Rifleman Sheldon Fry, Lt. Col. Tony Abrahams, Rifleman Colin Moul and Rifleman Christopher Wanless completed their transfer to the Rifles' Regiment, part of the United Kingdom's reorganization of its Army regiments Feb. 1 at Al Faw Palace.

Coalition Brits transfer regiments as part of Army's reorganization

Story, photo by Spc. Beatrice Florescu-Vila Verde
MNC-I PAO

A cap-badge change ceremony that sealed the transfer of four British Army 2nd Light Infantry Battalion soldiers to the 3rd Rifles Regiment took place Feb. 1 at Al Faw Palace.

The British Army is reorganizing, combining troops from four regiments and battalions into the Rifles' five battalions. The Rifles Regiment is now the British Army's largest infantry unit and represents the British Army's elite force in the 21st century.

"This change is a good thing for us, because we don't have to move around anymore," said Rifleman Colin Moul, 3rd Rifles Regiment. "We used to move everywhere, whereas now we can move across post and interchange between the different regiments, but within the same unit."

Moul, a native of Birmingham, England, was presented his new badge by Lt. Col. Tony Abrahams of the Rifles, formerly of the Royal Green Jackets. The Green Jackets have served all over the world, including Iraq.

"The reorganization represents the future of the British infantry and it amalgamates all the Soldiers together into Rifles," said Cpl. Ian York, 3rd Rifles Regmt. "This reorganization is done because it's bringing the cost down."

"I have mixed feelings because I have been with my bat-

talion for seven years," said York, a native of Duncaster, England. "We are losing some people and gaining some other people."

The 1st Battalion, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment Light Infantry, the 1st Battalion, The Royal Gloucestershire Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment Light Infantry, and The Light Infantry have all reformed. Each soldier in The Rifles now has the right to call himself a rifleman, an honor previously accorded only to those in the Royal Green Jackets. They wear a cap with a badge featuring a silver bugle topped with a crown. This is a nod to the history of light infantry troops, the first to use the bugle, not the drum, to deliver messages across 18th century battlefields.

The different battalions will be stationed in locations all over Britain including Chepstow, Exeter, Edinburgh, Yorkshire and Ballykinler in Northern Ireland. The Rifles comprise five regular battalions, two Territorial Army battalions, and three TA companies in two separate TA battalions.

The merger is part of the Future Infantry Structure, which was announced by then-Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon in December 2004.

It was decided the Arms Plot system — the mechanism by which battalions moved and changed roles every two to six years — was unsustainable. Instead, individual battalions are fixed by role and location.

Commentary

Armor cumbersome but necessary

Spc. D. A. Dickinson

28th Public Affairs Detachment

I never really imagined myself as a Fobbit. I always thought I'd be in a more adventurous role, like an Aragorn or a Faramir. "Lord of the Rings" references aside, however, I don't really venture outside the wire very often. When I do, I inevitably find myself struggling to swaddle myself into my trusty body armor. It's an awkward endeavor.

It seems odd to me that firearms, which played such an important role in ending the original age of the armored man-at-arms, are now influencing the development of armor in the opposite direction. Instead of streamlining our fighting gear to allow us to be as mobile as possible, we keep adding more and more, most of it heavy, all of it encumbering.

In olden times, men-at-arms wore armor because it provided them with protection from steel sidearms like swords and spears. Gunpowder put an end to the superiority of the armored soldier, and the breastplate was abandoned as too cumbersome — not



Dickinson

while wearing a nice shiny red coat wasn't the brightest way to avoid getting shot. Some enterprising individual figured out that ducking behind a tree in such a situation might be a good idea.

Now here we are in the 21st century, forsaking the good God-given cover of rocks and trees for this groovy new armor.

When I wear this stuff, I somehow manage to catch my equipment on every possible projection and loose strap. Upon first cinching everything into place, it feels like I have on a pair of blinders, since my neck is restricted.

Maybe it's just a fear that moving the wrong way will cause something else to get tangled up on something. Fortunately, this feeling pretty much goes away when I step outside the wire, and I find my head swiveling

only useless, but actually a disadvantage, since it slowed the wearer down.

Eventually, Americans figured out that standing upright in the middle of a field

about like a fake Chihuahua in the back window of a hooptie.

Walking is an interesting experience. I imagine it's a bit like waking up from a coma to find yourself carrying about 50 extra pounds around your midsection. God forbid I should drop my keys, because bending over to retrieve them — while amusing to spectators — might induce a loss of balance, leading to me squirming about on my back like a turtle.

Obviously, whatever protection this stuff provides, it hampers one's mobility.

In some cases, it might even slow you down enough to prevent you from reaching cover.

Sure, I know those small arms protective inserts really do stop some bullets, and that they enhance our survivability. Never mind that those plates make normal, everyday movements difficult, let alone high-speed, T.J. Hooker-style combat rolls.

Still, if I ever do find myself kicking down a door with some nefarious ne'er-do-wells on the opposite side, I'm sure I'll be grateful for every scrap of protection I can get.

Chaplain's Corner

Who wraps your parachute?

Chaplain Tom Drake

16th MP Brigade

Charles Plumb, a U.S. Naval Academy graduate, was a jet pilot in Vietnam. After 75 missions, his plane was destroyed by a surface-to-air missile. Plumb ejected and parachuted into enemy hands. He was captured and spent six years in a communist Vietnamese prison. He survived the ordeal

and now lectures on lessons learned from that experience.

One day, when Plumb and his wife were sitting in a restaurant, a man at another table came up and said, "You're Plumb! You flew jet fighters in Vietnam from the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk, You were shot down!"

"How in the world did you know

that?" asked Plumb.

"I packed your parachute." Plumb gasped in surprise and gratitude. The man pumped his hand and said, "I guess it worked!"

Plumb assured him. "It sure did, if your chute hadn't worked, I wouldn't be here today."

See PARACHUTE, page 5

Correction

Last week's front-page story, "Chapel hall named for fallen surgeon," misrepresented the location of the hall named for Col. Brian Allgood. The hall is in Bldg. 58A. The Phantom News regrets the error.

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Go Colts!



Spc. Laura M. Bigenho

Football fans cheer a play while watching Super Bowl XLI at the Sports Oasis Dining Facility Monday morning. The Indianapolis Colts beat the Chicago Bears 29-17 in this year's game, which was watched by a large crowd here.

Four days elsewhere Service members can take pass in Qatar

By Spc. Beatrice Florescu-Vila Verde
MNC-I PAO

Service members serving in Iraq for at least 90 days can take a four-day pass to Qatar, a good way to get a break from their deployments' demands.

The four-day pass is non-chargeable, said 1st Lt. Kristen Vahle, personnel officer, Special Troops Battalion, Task Force Phantom. There are 50 slots available each month for Multi-National Corps-Iraq which are distributed among sections. The sections will then provide names for each month for the respective dates.

A completed DA Form 31 is needed to process the request. The traveler flies out of Baghdad International Airport and is gone about six days, with four of those in Qatar.

Service members are eligible for this pass once every six months. There are a variety of activities to choose from while in Qatar, including swimming,

"Soldiers can go jet skiing, fishing, go on desert safaris, or choose to get a manicure, pedicure and massage."

-Staff Sgt. Rodney White
personnel services, MNC-I

shopping and playing golf. A limited amount of alcoholic beverages are permitted in accordance with regulation.

The four-day pass can only be used by 10 percent of a section's personnel at one time in conjunction with leave.

Service members must plan ahead with their respective section rest and recuperation representative, because they will know when everyone else in that section is leaving. Being aware of these factors will help Soldiers plan their four-day pass appropriately and

avoid rejection or postponement.

Soldiers should remember that they are not allowed to consume alcohol while in uniform, said Sgt. Skylar Holman, MNC-I personnel services, R&R Programs. They must to maintain a professional bearing.

"Soldiers can also go jet skiing, fishing, go on desert safaris, or choose to get a manicure, pedicure and massage," said Staff Sgt. Rodney White, MNC-I personnel services, R&R Programs. "It is a good opportunity to get away. The departures are around the same time of day every day."

The only times when going on pass are restricted are the first and last two months of a deployment. This is to allow units to better take over new responsibilities and prepare for redeployment.

For more information call, Spc. Tiasha Watts, R&R representative, Special Troops Battalion, Task Force Phantom, at 822-5399.

Soldiers recognize senior's support

Stoy, photo by
Cpl. Jess Kent
MNC-I PAO

Awards are often handed from leaders to deserving subordinates, but when an Air Force master sergeant accepted his latest award, it was a different scenario.

Master Sgt. Owen Duke Sr., a watch NCO with the Provost Marshal's Office Joint Operations Center, Multi-National Corps-Iraq, said the newest award means more than others because it was initiated by junior Soldiers.

"I was at the (dining facility) eating one evening and they pulled out a plaque that said thanks for the mentorship in support of the third shift palace guards," said Duke, who served as a tank gunner in the Army prior to enlisting in the Air Force. "That's probably one of the best things I've ever gotten in my whole career. I was stunned."

The mentorship he was awarded for included speaking to Al Faw Palace guards as he passed them each day on his way to work. While many service members wave their badges and proceed, Duke's personal mission was to greet the Soldiers.

"They work no matter the weather, time or date and they always have a smile, so I always stop and talk with them," he said. "You don't know what kind of day they're having. They work under tough conditions, they're away from friends and family, and they're so young, but they always have a good attitude



Air Force Master Sgt. Owen Duke Sr., a watch NCO with the Provost Marshals Office Joint Operations Center, Multi-National Corps-Iraq, was shocked when junior Soldiers presented a leadership award in thanks for his support.

no matter what's going on."

Checking on the Soldiers' welfare came natural to Duke, who serves in the Air Force Reserves. Assigned to 908th Security Forces Squadron in Montgomery, Ala., he also works as a counselor for the state. When Duke received short-notice orders to Iraq, he acknowledged the challenge but looked for positive aspects of serving his country.

"Meeting these Soldiers and getting to work with other services to get a better understanding of the big operational picture has really opened my eyes to inter-service relationships and how we complement each other on missions," Duke stated. "I got to see how folks from completely different backgrounds and services pulled up shoulder-

to-shoulder to make things happen."

One of his messages to junior Soldiers is that when they enlisted, they understood they may have to leave family and friends to go somewhere not particularly pleasant. He stressed that while sacrifices are made, positive results occur every day.

"We hear about the bad things, but we also get to see the wonderful things happening out here," Duke said. "Hospitals and schools are being built, people have opportunities to have businesses and we're trying our very best to provide the people who want democracy with the resources. This is a tough place to be, and the troops who are in harm's way day-in and day-out have char-

acter I'll never know. They are the true heroes."

Therefore, when he meets junior Soldiers, Duke tells them that without their contributions, the good things happening in Iraq would not be possible.

Duke, better known as "War Eagle," doesn't focus on his own accomplishments but has made many contributions, said Marine Col. Michael F. McCarthy, chief of operations, Joint Operations Center, MNC-I.

"Master Sgt. Duke realized that true leadership is really mentorship. He always praised those least noticed. These 'unsung heroes' included all the sentries and KBR employees around Camp Victory," McCarthy stated. "Each of these people were familiar with Master Sgt. Duke's boisterous, yet professional, and most importantly, genuine inquiries as to their individual well-being."

Duke's contributions were obvious to everyone he went out of the way to talk to, McCarthy stated. The strength of his grip as he readily offered his hand was exceeded only by the strength of his compassionate character.

After six months in Iraq, the master sergeant known as War Eagle flew home to his wife, two dogs, 64 1/2 Mustang and "honey-do list." He continues to proudly support his son, Army Sgt. Owen Duke Jr., an engineer deployed to Africa.

While he received other awards for his service in Iraq, Duke's leadership award from junior Soldiers will be on proud display.

Spending that extra cash

ENCS helps troops get cut-rate deals on wheels

Spc. Laura M. Bigenho

28th Public Affairs Detachment

The Military Advantage Program makes purchasing a new vehicle simple and easy on the pocket for deployed service members and Department of Defense civilians. Created by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service and the Navy Exchange, the Exchange New Car Sales Program offers military discounts, guarantees and protections you cannot get from car dealers elsewhere.

With offices in 30 different countries, including eight in Iraq, military personnel stationed overseas for at least 30 days can take advantage of ENCS.

There are advantages to buying a vehicle through ENCS, said Paul Sheary, program manager, Camp Liberty, Iraq. The biggest advantage is purchasing the vehicle directly from the factory. Consumers are guaranteed their vehicle at or below the manufacturer's suggested retail price and often receive an additional discount or rebate.

Customers can expect to save anywhere from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars off MSRP, depending on the car selected and the special military instant rebates, which can change each month. Sheary said he recently helped a customer save almost \$9,000 on a Ford truck.

"You really can't get a better deal anywhere else," he said. "The amount

of money you save is incredible."

Another advantage is that unlike most car dealers, ENCS is not trying to sell the last cars on their lot, Sheary said. Instead, customers have an option to custom build their vehicle, choosing from dealerships selling vehicles from Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep, Ford, Lincoln, Mercury and Harley Davidson.

Vehicles are delivered to an authorized dealer in the customer's state of choice, ready to be picked upon redeployment. Customers can also arrange for a Power of Attorney for someone to pick up the vehicle before arriving home.

Once the customer selects a car and makes a deposit, ENCS will work directly with his lender of choice to finance the vehicle while guaranteeing a full refund if financing is not obtained within 10 days, Sheary said.

Although customers have the option to make payments while overseas, they do not have to begin making monthly payments on their vehicle until after they pick it up from the dealer. Customers may also benefit from 100 percent rebate protection and locked prices.

Sheary said ENCS takes pride in putting an emphasis on customer care, ensuring pressure-free service. Their job is to talk customers through the process while getting the best deal possible.

"We provide on base, face-to-face customer service to service members serving overseas," he said. "We're not trying to sell you anything. We're here to offer free and impartial advice."

To help customers in their car purchasing decisions, Sheary said he saves his customer's information, making it easy to make changes at any time.

"A customer can send me an e-mail and say they want to change something about their purchase, and I can do that for them," Sheary said. "(ENCS) really puts you in charge. You dictate what you want."

Prospective customers sometimes do not know what they want when they come into his office, but Sheary treats them with the same courtesy as those who do. He is also willing to meet with personnel who cannot come into his office during office hours.

"The more people we can help, the better," Sheary said. "You deserve some sort of (reward) for what you do over here."

The 2007 models are available for purchase along with several 2008 models. Other 2008 models will be available in early Fall.

Sheary encouraged anyone with questions to drop by the ENCS office, located across from the Liberty PX, or e-mail him at psheary@militarycars.com. Customers can also go to the Web site, www.encs.com.

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Plumb couldn't sleep that night, thinking about that man. He said, "I kept wondering what he might have looked like in a Navy uniform: a white hat, a bib in the back, and bell-bottom trousers. I wonder how many times I might have seen him and not even said 'Good morning, How are you?' or anything because you see, I was a fighter pilot and he was just a sailor. Plumb thought of the many hours the sailor had spent on a long wooden table in the bowels of the ship, carefully weaving the shroud lines and folding the silks of each chute, holding in his hands each time the fate of someone he didn't know."

Now, Plumb asked his audience, "Who's packing your parachute?" Everyone has someone who provides what they need to make it through the day.

Plumb also pointed out that he needed many kinds of parachutes when his plane was shot down over enemy ter-

ritory. He needed his physical parachute, his mental parachute, his emotional parachute and his spiritual parachute. He called on all these supports before reaching safety.

Sometimes in the daily challenges that life gives us, we miss what is really important. We may fail to say hello, please or thank you, congratulate someone on something wonderful that has happened to them, give a complement, or just do something nice for no reason.

As we move through these months of deployment and look toward the end, it is important to recognize those people who pack your parachute.

It does not matter if you are left to keep the home fires burning or if you are the one on the front lines in service for your country, we all have people who are packing our chutes.

We are not alone. There are others who care and it is important to say thank you for those who are packing our chutes.

Medical personnel miss grandkids, but volunteer for more time here

Story, photo by Cpl. Jess Kent
MNC-I PAO

Service members from different branches of the military face differing deployments, ranging from four months to a year in a deployed environment.

While some may think the respective tour means a life too long away from family and friends, a few others seek voluntary extension.

Staff Sgt. Vitula Reese, a medic at Golby Troop Medical Clinic, has served the Army for 24 years. At the 20-year mark, Reese didn't think twice about retirement because she enjoys performing her duties.

She served during Desert Storm in 1990 and her current deployment to Iraq made the second time she has supported America's Soldiers during war. Reese's career in the Army has grown just as her family grew to four children and five grandchildren. Her goal remains the same: a perfect score on the Army Physical Fitness Test.

While serving in Ferndale, Mich., with the 1171st Air Service Medical Command, Reese volunteered to deploy for many reasons.

"I enjoy learning and helping others," she said. "I know everything I do will have some type of effect on future Americans."

Reese believes that Soldiers in the future will benefit from her work, just as she benefits from the sacrifices of past and present Soldiers.

Because of this, she seeks an extension to her one-year deployment to Iraq.

"I have a lot of support from my family. They would like me to be home, but they support what I'm doing and how I'm doing it," she said. "You know what they say: Time passes by when you enjoy and believe in what you're doing. When I first got in, I never thought I would put in this many years."

In Michigan, Reese worked at a post office, performed military funeral



Col. John Brooks, a doctor at Golby Troop Medical Clinic, and Staff Sgt. Vitula Reese, a medic at the clinic, display pictures of their families. Both Soldiers volunteered for extensions in Iraq and look forward to spending time with their grandchildren when the voluntary service is complete.

honors, completed volunteer work at a medical clinic, and balanced weekends with her grandchildren. She saw deployment as a chance to contribute to the war effort.

"We've only gotten as far as we have because of the sacrifices of others. Junior Soldiers may not see it right now, but in the long run they'll see the benefits of their service," Reese stated. "We just have to strive on. Everybody who entered the service volunteered. They may have enlisted for various reasons like money or education, but it also offered ventures."

Col. John Brooks, a clinic doctor at Golby Troop Medical Clinic, can attest to those ventures. He planned to serve 90 days in Iraq but saw a need for doctors and extended for a year. Then Lt. Col. Paula Nobles, a mental health advisor with 3rd Medical Command, MNC-I, volunteered to stay for 15 months and Brooks decided to meet her standard.

During his 34 years of service, Brooks fought the spread of meningi-

tis, served during Desert Storm, and later became an assistant professor of military science at the University of South Carolina. He had his own medical practice as an allergist in Spartanburg, N.C., but he gave that up after the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

"When the kids were small, I got up and went to work no matter how I felt," he said. "Now it feels like my job is to get up and go to work for my country and take care of other people's kids. It's more important to take care of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines than it is to make money."

When their missions are accomplished, volunteers like Reese, Nobles and Brooks look forward to going home and spending time with their grandchildren.

"I hope that what I do here will help keep violence from being over there," Brooks said. "I would rather have my patients (in the United States) wait a little bit longer for me to come home so that when I do, I know the problem's not coming to them."

Announcements

Soccer tournament

The Camp Victory World-Class Soccer League Preseason Tournament is Feb. 18 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the soccer court in front of the food court. Contact Spc. Chris Christian at 242-0278 to sign up.

Negligent discharge of weapons

During the 2006 calendar year, negligent discharges resulted in 43 coalition injuries and three fatalities. In the past month, there have been 10 such injuries. Leaders and service members must observe proper weapons handling and clearing procedures.

Black History Month observance

The MNF-I/MNC-I Equal Opportunity Office presents a Black History Month observance Tuesday from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Al Faw Palace rotunda. The event will be followed by dinner in the palace ballroom.

Contractor forum

A forum for contractors on Victory Base Complex will be held Thursday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Camp Victory Chapel, Bldg. 31.

Tax help at education center

The MNC-I legal assistance office has set up two computers at the education center to allow Soldiers to file tax returns. Anyone with questions can stop by the Legal Assistance Office, Bldg. 133, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bible studies

New Bible studies are starting at Camp Victory. The Men's Fellowship Bible Study meets Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the Victory

Mini Chapel, Bldg. 24F. Contact Chief Warrant Officer Pierre Julien at 822-4660 for more information. The Set Apart Men's Bible Study meets Thursdays from 7-8 p.m. at Victory Chapel, Bldg. 31. Contact Chaplain Kimon Nicolaides at 822-4835 for more information. The Experiencing God Bible Study meets Saturdays at 7 p.m. in the Phantom Conference Room in Al Faw Palace. Contact Chaplain Dan Stallard at william.stallard@iraq.centcom.mil for more information.

Reserve transportation officers

HRC-Alexandria is accepting voluntary active duty applications for qualified captains who meet the Army's medical and physical standards and possess a valid secret clearance to serve as aerial port detachment commander at Fort Bliss, Texas. Those interested should submit a military biography, two recent OERs, APFT, secret clearance memorandum or DD873, contact phone number, an email address to atac@conus.army.mil.

Reserve enlisted Soldiers

HRC-Alexandria is accepting voluntary active duty tour applications for qualified sergeants to sergeants first class in the 42A and 88N career fields who meet all medical and physical standards and possess a secret clearance to provide movement control, administrative and logistical support to sponsored travelers in Alexandria, Va., Dallas and Atlanta. Those interested should submit a military biography, two recent NCOERs, APFT, secret clearance memorandum or DD873, contact phone number, an email address to atac@conus.army.mil.

Area 51 Weekly Schedule

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Fight Night XBox 360 Tournament 8 p.m.	Pool Tournament 8 p.m.	Valentine's Day Bash at MWR Bldg. 124 8 p.m.	Dominoes Tournament 8 p.m.	Salsa Night 8 p.m.		DJ Big Will Smooth Sunday 8 p.m.

Do you have an announcement about an event of interest to the Camp Victory community? Contact Sgt. Jacob Boyer at jacob.boyer@iraq.centcom.mil with the information. Information for community announcements needs to be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event to allow for timely publication.

Operating Hours

Coalition Cafe
Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Dinner 5:30 - 8 p.m.
Midnight Dining 11 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Sports Oasis
Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Dinner 5 - 9 p.m.

Education Center
Open 24 Hours

Camp Liberty Post Exchange
8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Fitness Center
Open 24 Hours

MNC-I STB Mailroom
9 a.m. - noon
5 - 7 p.m.

Golby Troop Medical Clinic
Sick Call:
Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon
Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon

Dental Sick Call:
Monday - Friday 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Saturday 9 - 10:30 a.m.

Mental Health Clinic:
Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - noon

Post-Deployment Health Briefings:
Monday, Wednesday and Friday 1 p.m.

Pharmacy:
Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon;
1 - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 7:30 a.m. - noon

Legal Assistance/Claims
Saturday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Personnel Service Support Centers
Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

ID Cards
Monday - Friday 6 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Worship Hours

Victory Chapel (Bldg. 31)
Sunday
7 a.m. Collective Protestant
8:45 a.m. Collective Protestant
10 a.m. Catholic Confession
10:30 a.m. Catholic Mass
noon Gospel Protestant
2 p.m. Latter Day Saints
4 p.m. Episcopal/Lutheran
6 p.m. Contemporary Protestant
8 p.m. Knights of Columbus
(1st & 3rd Sundays)

Saturday
11 a.m. Seventh Day Adventist
8 p.m. Catholic Mass

Mini Chapel (Bldg. 2)
Sunday
9:30 a.m. Breaking of Bread
3 p.m. Church of Christ
7:30 p.m. Latter Day Saints

Monday-Friday
4 p.m. Daily Mass

Friday
6:30 p.m. Jewish Service

AFN Freedom Radio

Al Asad 107.3	Kirkush 107.3
Ali Base 107.3	Mosul 105.1
Ar Ramadi... 107.3	Q-West 93.3
Baghdad ... 107.3	Taji 107.3
Balad 107.3	Tal Afar..... 107.3
Fallujah..... 105.1	Taqadum... 107.3
Kirkuk..... 107.3	Tikrit..... 100.1

All stations are FM

Victory team falls short in bball tourney

Three-game night proves costly to Triple Threat's chances

Story, photos by Sgt. Jacob Boyer

Editor

The Camp Victory Triple Threat toughed out two wins in a three-game opening night but failed to take the title in the Camp Liberty 5-on-5 Women's Basketball Tournament Jan. 27-28.

After beating Proven in Battle by the slaughter rule in the first round, the Threat, made up of players from units at Camp Victory, struggled with a physical Lady Mavericks team and lost 25-18 in their second game of the tournament's opening night.

After falling behind 22-9 with 12:25 left in the second half, Threat forward Rosalyn Thomas scored six points over 9 minutes to spark her team to a 9-3 run, but it was not enough to overcome the Lady Mavs' lead. The Mavs' Lara Mildred put in a trey in that span for the final margin.

Triple Threat's night was not over. They went on the loser's bracket, in which they beat Proven in Battle again. That win advanced them to the finals Jan. 28, in which they fell again to the Lady Mavs, this time by a margin of 32-17.

"We played well, but the brackets were to our disadvantage," said John Brimm, Triple Threat's coach, of the three-team, double-elimination tournament. "We had to play three games in a row the first night, and with a small team, we just got tired."

Triple Threat returns to action Saturday and Sunday in another 5-on-5 tournament at Liberty.



Triple Threat's Rosalyn Thomas puts up a shot during her team's 25-18 loss to the Lady Mavs in the second round of Camp Liberty's Women's 5-on-5 Basketball Tournament Jan. 27.



Triple Threat's Christianna Bagby sets up for her shot during Threat's 25-18 loss to the Mavs in the second round.